

Proof of Tax-Exempt Status

Districts may be asked to provide proof of tax-exempt status for grant applications or other purposes.

As stated in the [Oregon Soil and Water Conservation District Guidebook](#), conservation districts are classified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as tax exempt under IRS Code, Section 115. This section specifically excludes the income of municipal governments from the definition of gross income. Because conservation districts are classified as municipal governments for this purpose, rather than agencies of the state, they are tax exempt.

More information on this topic is also available online at the IRS website at <http://www.irs.gov/govt/fslg/article/0,,id=112708,00.html>. As a special service to government entities, the IRS will provide, without charge, a “government affirmation letter” as documentation of tax-exempt status. Request one by calling 1-877-829-5500.

Non-profit status

Conservation districts do not currently qualify for IRS Code, Section 501(c)(3) nonprofit status. Please see [Chapter VI, “District Operations”](#), in the *Oregon Soil and Water Conservation District Guidebook* for more information.